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Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Inside Wallops

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Several Outlets to Voice Safety Concerns

by NASA Administrator, Sean O'Keefe

Everyone at NASA must be committed to protecting the safety and health of our workforce and the general public, as well as preventing damage to the agency's high-value assets whether on or off the ground.

You are encouraged to voice your safety concerns through the several outlets provided by NASA's Safety and Hazard Reporting Hierarchy including: the supervisory chain, the Ombuds Program, NASA's Safety Reporting System (NSRS), OSHA, NASA's grievance procedure through recognized labor organizations or NASA's Inspector General.

NASA's Safety and Hazard Reporting Hierarchy encourages you to immediately report a situation that might result in a death, injury or damage to equipment or property. Reports receive prompt and thorough attention. Emergencies requiring immediate action, or a life-threatening condition, should always be immediately reported according to local reporting procedures.

For the most effective and timely consideration, report concerns to your supervisor. If the reported concern goes unattended, it should be elevated to:

- Your center's local safety reporting system
- Your center's safety office
- Your center director
- Your local NASA Ombuds representative

NASA implemented the agencywide Ombuds Program to provide an additional, confidential channel of person-to-person communication to raise concerns about safety, health, organizational performance and mission success.

NASA Ombuds are empowered to listen to and act on employee concerns related to safety, organizational performance and mission success.

The Ombuds serve as a safety valve when employees feel regular channels for raising issues and concerns are not effectively working.

Each Ombuds serves as an honest broker to ensure NASA becomes more accountable and results-oriented.

When presented with issues, Ombuds may conduct inquiries and promote resolution of the concern that is satisfactory to all parties involved. Each Ombuds has the authority to raise concerns directly with their center director.

The Ombuds at Goddard Space Flight Center is: Judy Bruner. She may be reached by telephone on (301) 286-2556 or by email: Judith.N.Bruner@nasa.gov

If you remain dissatisfied with the actions taken, concerns may be elevated to Headquarters' senior safety and health officials. If you believe the issue(s) is unresolved, then your concerns may be submitted to the NASA Safety Reporting System (NSRS).

The NSRS is an anonymous, voluntary and responsive reporting channel to notify NASA's upper management of concerns about safety and hazards. You should not use the NSRS to report urgent or emergency situations.

For more information about NSRS see: <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/nsrs>

Another option you have for reporting safety and health concerns is the Office of Federal Agency Safety and Health Programs, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor (OSHA/DOL) at: <http://www.osha.gov>

Complaints or grievances may also be registered through NASA grievance procedures, through procedures contained in agreements negotiated with recognized labor organizations or through the NASA Office of Inspector General at: <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/oig/hq/hotline.html>

You should understand your safety responsibilities and your options for reporting hazards. The NASA Safety and Hazard Reporting Web site provides direct links to the agency's local reporting channels. http://www.nasa.gov/audience/safety/reporting/Safety_reporting.html

At NASA, safety is everyone's responsibility.

Pedestrians Have the Right-of-Way

Pedestrian crosswalks have been painted on some of the most frequently crossed streets on the Main Base. Signs have been posted marking the designated crosswalks. The intent of these crosswalks is to allow pedestrians to safely cross the street. Approaching vehicular traffic must stop and yield the right of way to any pedestrian in the crosswalk.

Good weather brings out more people walking, running and riding their bikes. Start to think about traffic, slow down a little, be aware of "new patterns" around our Facility and make it safe for everyone.

There is a pedestrian crosswalk in front of the D-10 Gym, E-2 Cafeteria, and between Building F-7 and F-10.



Pedestrian crosswalk.

Photo by Betty Flowers

New NSRS Reporting Forms

The NASA Safety Reporting System (NSRS) has a new reporting form and a new mailing address. The new reporting forms are printed on yellow paper and have a Bethesda, MD. mailing address.

The new mailing address is: NSRS, P.O. Box 5826, Bethesda, MD 20824. An electronic version of the form is available on the NSRS website at <http://www.hq.nasa.gov/nsrs>.

The Wallops Safety Office has made an effort to replace all of the old NSRS (white) reporting forms here at Wallops. Please discard the obsolete reporting forms that are printed on white paper with a Falls Church, VA mailing address. For further information contact Howard Kilmon on x1486 or by email: howard.k.kilmon@nasa.gov

Health and Wellness Fair

The Wallops Health Unit hosted a Health and Wellness Fair on May 6 that was attended by approximately 200 employees. Several local health organizations were on hand to provide information and demonstrations.



Bernita Justis, NSROC, has her blood pressure taken by Advance Life Support (ALS) Provider, Thomas Berry, Wallops Fire Department.



The Women of Wallops featured a display titled "Walk A Mile in My Shoes". Pictured (left to right) Denise Gramlich, Tracy Bohaboj, Jessica Thompson, Valerie Mackritis and Terry Ewell. Not pictured are: Cheryl Outten and Sharone Corbin.

**Center Director's Colloquia Series
Tongue Fu!**

Guest Speaker: Sam Horn

May 18
10 to 11:30 a.m.
Building D-10

Would you like to know what to say – when you don't know what to say?

Would you like to learn how to convince someone to stop talking, listen and see your point of view?

Would you like to be able to calm people down who are taking their frustration out on you?

Sam Horn will offer specific, real-life ways to deal with difficult individuals without becoming one yourself.

You'll learn how to help people stop blaming and focus on solutions vs. fault, diplomatically resolve complaints and arguments, handle hassles with appropriate humor, keep from saying something you regret, avoid words that cause resentment and get along better with just about anyone, anytime, anywhere.

Wallops Aerobics Club Starts New Session

A new session of the Wallops Aerobics Club begins today, May 17.

Reasons to do some type of aerobic exercise (aerobics and body sculpting or Tai Chi):

- * Fat Loss
- * Muscle Gain
- * Healthy Mind
- * Healthy Body
- * Just because it feels so good to be healthy.

The Aerobics Club might be for you. For further information all Anita Speidel, 824-0130, extension 47 or Clayton Wetzel on x1648.

Property Awareness

Are you or your organization relocating from one office to another or from one building to another? If the answer is yes, notify your property custodian. In order to successfully inventory property, Wallops property custodians need to be kept informed of all equipment relocations.

If you don't know your property custodian, call Regina Waters on x1337.

Voices of Wallops and Wallops Music Club



Space Flight Adventure Summer Camp

Do you know a child that is interested in how rockets fly?

If they're interested in aerodynamics, microgravity, robotics, rocket launches, radar technology and weather, the Virginia Space Flight Academy Summer Camp is the place for them.

At the coed camp for ages 12-15, campers will work with fellow space explorers to launch a "Mission to Mars" and build and launch their own model rocket.

They'll be exposed to the world of robotics and fly cross country with a flight simulator.

Campers will conduct a simulated rocket launch from NASA's mission control room seated behind computer consoles with individual earphones and microphones. Each are given active parts in the simulated launch activity.

Campers will visit and observe on-going operations in many areas of NASA Wallops Flight Facility, the NOAA Weather Command and Data Acquisition Center, the Navy's Surface Combat System Center and the Virginia Space Flight Center.

Dates for the 2004 camps are:

- June 20 - 25
- June 27 - July 2
- July 4 - 9
- July 11 - 16
- July 18 - 23
- July 25 - 30
- August 1 - 6
- August 8 - 13
- August 15 - 20

The cost for the one-week camp is \$595.

For further information visit www.vaspaceflightacademy.org or call Bob Marshall on 757 824-3800.

Inside Wallops is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: www.wff.nasa.gov

Editor

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